



# Is Aging Like Holmes' "One Horse Shay"?

What do you think the parson found,  
When he got up and stared around?  
The poor old chaise in a heap or mound,  
As if it had been to the mill and ground!  
You see, of course, if you're not a dunce,  
**How it went to pieces all at once, —**  
**All at once, and nothing first, —**  
**Just as bubbles do when they burst.**  
**End of the wonderful one-hoss shay.**  
Logic is logic. That's all I say.

# Aging Enigmas

1. Is aging the same as degenerating diseases?
2. Is there an underlying “common pathway” for degenerating diseases?
3. Are degenerating diseases increasing “because of” an aging population?
4. Are the experimental biochemical and molecular mechanisms which prolong life in invertebrates and mice applicable to humans?
5. How can these issues be studied?